

# **Investing in Our Future**

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"Cities never stay the same over time. They either invest in themselves and thrive or they risk falling behind in quality of life and in economic opportunities. Now is the time to plan for a brighter future for Albuquerque."

Vote Oct. 4

No Tax Increases.

Should we invest in our city?

-- Mayor Richard J. Berry

ABQ The PLAN: We are looking at large public projects that will shape the future of our community. These projects will make visitors want to vacation in Albuquerque and make our residents proud to live here. These enhancements will entice new and existing businesses to grow and create new quality jobs. This overall plan will honor our proud heritage while we move forward as a vibrant and modern city.

#### What is ABQ The PLAN?

It's about large scale public projects that will:

- Increase quality of life for residents
- Enhance economic development opportunities
- · Promote tourism
- Spur private sector investments



**Projects on the October 4th Ballot** 

Paseo del Norte @ I-25 Interchange, \$25 million towards the total cost of the project

Use city funds to leverage investments from State and Federal agencies to construct the Paseo del Norte and I-25 interchange reducing traffic congestion and improving air quality.

Regional Sports Complex, \$25 million

Construct a regional sports complex with a field house and other competition facilities to provide additional sports and recreational opportunities for our citizens, as well as visitors to Albuquerque.



Projects moving forward with other funds

Bus Rapid Transit, \$45 million (Moving forward)

Construct a Bus Rapid Transit Line on Central Ave. from Tramway to 98th Street, to connect east to west and provide infrastructure to enhance neighborhoods.

Convention Center Facelift, \$55 million (Phase 1 - \$20 million moving forward)

Provide a much needed facelift for the Albuquerque Convention Center to bring more conventions to Albuquerque. Other projects might include: Civic Plaza and 4th Street Mall improvements to create greater public spaces for Albuquerque.





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## ABQ Cultural Trail, \$20 million

**Additional Projects** 

Tie together our tremendous cultural assets with walking and biking trails, roads, streetscapes, and signage. The trail would connect the BioPark (Zoo, Aquarium, and Botanic Gardens), National Hispanic Cultural Center, Explora, Downtown, KiMo Theatre, Alvarado Transportation Center, Convention Center/Civic Plaza and other cultural destinations.



## Rio Grande River Corridor Enhancements, \$30 million

Partner with other government agencies to make the river more accessible to residents and visitors by creating picnic areas, recreational amenities, boardwalks, trails, scenic overlooks and kayak facilities.



#### **■ 50-Mile Bike Loop, \$20 million**

Finish and improve a 50-mile bicycling, running and walking trail circling Albuquerque to promote health and recreation in our community.



## ■ EXPO New Mexico (State Fairgrounds), \$40 million towards the total cost of the project

Partner with the State to recast the EXPO New Mexico Fairgrounds as a thriving, year-round recreational, arts, business, cultural, and equestrian destination for Albuquerque and the rest of New Mexico.



#### **◆** White Water Competition and Recreational Complex, \$10 million

Construct a world-class whitewater park in Albuquerque as a multi-purpose sports center oriented around healthy, active, outdoor recreation. The park would feature commercial rafting held in a state-of-the-art manmade river that would be open to the general public. It could also be used for swiftwater rescue training.

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#### How will we pay for these projects?

We are looking at a variety of financing mechanisms and best practices to fund these projects, including leveraging federal funding, smart financing, public and private sector partnerships, and reducing operational costs by treating these investments as enterprises.

If the voters approve dedicating up to \$12 million per year from the City's operating budget to finance projects, we could finance up to \$200 million in projects. This investment would support ongoing growth and quality of life in our community. In addition, these projects would generate new jobs and tourism opportunities.

## How long will it take to build these projects?

ABQ the Plan is a long-term plan. Some of these projects can be started and finished quickly. Some may take longer. Our goal is to get this plan and the financing mechanisms in place so that improvements can continue from one administration to the next. By controlling cost and growth of local government, we can fund many of these projects in the near future using existing revenues, leveraging state and federal funds, as well as private sector development.

## Who decides which projects will be done?

Essentially, this is the City of Albuquerque's Plan. We have requested public input on these projects. A Plan Implementation Committee comprised of citizens representing the City Council and the Mayor reviewed the projects and made recommendations to the Mayor and City Council for consideration and ultimately for the voters approval. The City Council has approved the Paseo del Norte @ I-25 Interchange and the Regional Sports Complex projects for the October 4th ballot.

#### How can I learn more about The PLAN?

Contact Us: Office of the Mayor (505) 768-3000 Email: ThePlan@cabq.gov